

there may be a Committee in each County, the Chairman, a salaried Officer, is put at its head. The certificates must be renewed every year, and are good only in the County where issued; and by this means a County with a low standard cannot impose its licentiates on Counties where the standard is higher, while those who depreciate in morals and character during the year can be cut off.

To add to the efficiency of this system, I have caused graded certificates to be used, that the rank of all having license to teach may not be considered equal; and I have also furnished blanks by which the Chairman, with little trouble, can keep a record of the names and rank of all licensed. Examinations may not always test the capacity of Teachers; but the fear of them, the desire to get higher grades each year, and the consciousness that the honors and rank of each will be annually sent to the General Superintendent, make every Teacher of the least spirit strive, during the year, to improve. They never forget the examinations; and their efforts to improve themselves will do more good than the efforts of those supported at Schools by means that cost them nothing.

The machinery is beginning to be sensibly felt, and of *sixty-two Chairmen* who have testified to me on the subject, *one* thinks the system not useful, two or three want to see it tried farther, and *fifty-eight* are unqualified in their approbation.

There is one more step necessary—some legislation to *insure* good Examining Committees, and to bring Teachers into associations for mutual improvement, as well as to bind them together in bodies, that they may present more tangible objects for the exertions of their friends and of the friends of education in their behalf. They should be placed in the way of attaining to greater legal dignity, of protecting themselves from evil associations, and of forming themselves into a power in the State, with rights and privileges as a body, with a character to defend, and a position to be proud of. This can all be effected by simple and economical means. In other States they have Teachers' Institutes—an institute embracing Teachers in a certain territory or district, and the Teachers being required to attend periodical meetings, lasting often for a week, for discussion, conversation and examina-